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Application No.10,820,522
Amendment dated 22 Jan 2007
Reply to FINAL Office Action of 22 Aug 2006

Remarks:**Claim rejections-35 USC §102**

Claims 1-6 stand finally rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,659,478 (Pennisi et al). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-6 have been amended to distinguish over the reference cited by the Examiner and in accordance with the matters discussed by Examiner Cabrera, Applicant, Joseph Arvin, and his attorney Jerry A. Schulman at the interview conducted on May 31, 2006 at the Patent Office.

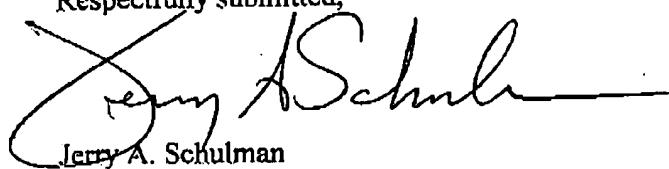
The present invention involves methods for manufacturing a workpiece and then, in a separate set of operations, finishing that workpiece to remove imperfections such as burrs and the like. A second embodiment of the present invention involves taking an existing work piece and performing finishing operations upon it.

At the interview, Mr. Arvin stated that he is unaware of any computer-controlled machining system that will perform highly-toleranced finishing operations on an existing work piece by modifying the machine instructions used to manufacture the work piece to operate a robotically controlled finishing tool. It is Applicant's attorney's recollection that Examiner Cabrera suggested that amending Claims 1-6 to cover complex spiral gears would distinguish them over the prior art. Claims 1-6 have been so amended.

For the foregoing reasons, the claims as amended should be allowed, and the application should be passed to issuance.

Applicant respectfully contends that the application, with Claims 1-6 as amended, with original Claims 7-18 and with Claim 19 canceled, is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any further questions, please telephone the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,


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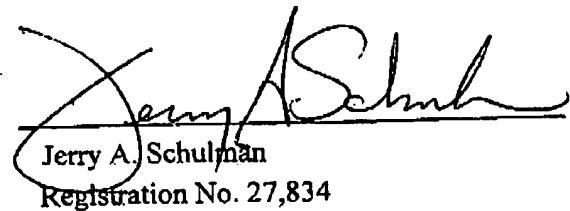
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Attorney Docket 10224-2-2

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Date of Transmission: January 22, 2007

I hereby certify that the foregoing correspondence, consisting of AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL and REQUEST UNDER 37 CFR §1.136 are being transmitted via facsimile transmission to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to (571)273-8300 on the date above written.


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